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16 May 1958

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Davidson
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MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Meeting with Air Force Representatives concerning Unidentified Flying Objects

25X1 1. At the request of [redacted] of OSI, I attended an OSI meeting with representatives of the Air Force on the subject of unidentified flying objects. Present at the meeting were [redacted] of OSI, Majors Burns, Boland and Tacher, and Dr. Francis Arcerir of the Air Force.

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2. The Air Force representatives indicated that in view of the continuing public interest in the field of unidentified flying objects (flying saucers), and in view of the feeling of the Permanent Investigating Subcommittee of the Senate Committee on Government Operations that the Air Force should dispel the air of mystery surrounding the flying saucer report of 1953, the Air Force proposes to prepare a press release on this subject. Major Tacher, who is with the Air Force Information Service, indicated that he is being badgered constantly by UFO groups and various individuals concerning the subject of UFOs generally and the 1953 report specifically. Among these individuals is a Dr. Leon Davidson who has recently written to Tacher, again making certain unfounded allegations concerning the 1953 report.

3. Major Tacher circulated to the members of the meeting a draft reply which he proposed to send to Dr. Davidson. With certain changes made, it was agreed by those present that the letter should be sent. A change requested by the OSI people was the deletion of any reference to the Office of Scientific Intelligence or to the fact that CIA had convened the panel which made this report. Other changes were relatively minor.

4. It was further agreed that Major Tacher would prepare a draft of a news release to be made by the Air Force in the near future. The release is to contain the strongest possible language on the subject which would dispel this air of mystery concerning the 1953 report and any sightings or developments in the field of flying saucers since that date. Major Tacher's draft release will be coordinated internally in the Air Force and then referred to CIA for coordination. At that time it will be reviewed by OSI, General Counsel, and the Office of Security.

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5. Several other points were discussed during the meeting, the most important of which was the matter of Admiral Hillenkoetter's association with a group headed by a Major Kehoe. The Air Force feels that Major Kehoe's organization is keeping this subject in the public eye and that the position which it has taken is not entirely sound. They also feel rather strongly that Admiral Hillenkoetter's connection with this organization gives it considerable prestige and they seriously doubt that the Admiral is aware of the position which this organization has taken concerning the UFO report. The CIA representatives agreed to look into this and consider approaching Admiral Hillenkoetter on it. Aside from this, no further action is required by CIA until the Air Force draft news release is forwarded to us for coordination.



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Assistant to the Legislative Counsel

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